

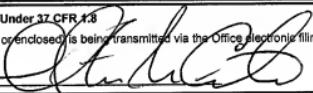
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thomas E. Creamer et al.  
Serial No.: 10/603,495  
Confirmation No.: 3535  
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Dated: 5/21/09

Signature: 

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Pursuant to a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed herewith, and in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 21, 2009, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.